

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration of this application, as amended.

Without acceding to the rejection of Claims 1 and 3-5 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,687,796 to Laine in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,728,795 to Farazmandnia, Applicants have amended Claim 1 to clarify the invention intended to be claimed. Independent Claim 1 now clarifies that the direct memory access controller sets a number larger than the number of data received by the serial interface at a time as a number of transfers before said serial interface receives said data. It is apparent that Laine and Farazmandnia, whether taken alone or in combination, fail to teach or suggest at least this feature of Claim 1.

In particular, Laine discloses that DMA controller 210 transfers data between points in the memory space without intervention by the CPU. See Laine, col. 5, lines 19-23. Farazmandnia discloses an apparatus including a DMA controller and DMA FIFO memory, wherein the DMA FIFO can be any size, but preferably is eight bytes in size, and once the DMA FIFO 204 is filled with x valid bytes, the data from the DMA FIFO 204 is transferred over a bus by DMA controller 206 to a host memory 208 or protocol stack. See Farazmandnia, col. 3, lines 24-38; Figure 2. Farazmandnia's

disclosure that the DMA FIFO can be any size does not constitute a teaching or suggestion of "setting," as a number of transfers, a number larger than the number of data received at a time by the serial interface, let alone a teaching or suggestion that a setting (of a number) is done by a direct memory access controller and before a serial interface receives data. Thus, the combined disclosures of Laine and Farazmandnia fail to teach or suggest at least the above-noted feature of Claim 1. Accordingly, Claim 1 is patentable over the applied references and should be allowed. Claims 3-5 are allowable based on their dependence from Claim 1.

In view of the foregoing, this Application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully solicit a Notice of Allowance.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge to Deposit Account No. 50-1165 (XA-10061) any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 that may be required by this paper and to credit any overpayment to that Account. If any extension of time is required in connection with the filing of this paper and has not been separately requested, such extension is hereby requested.

Respectfully submitted,

By: Patrick Miller
Mitchell W. Shapiro
Reg. No. 31,568

Miles & Stockbridge, P.C.
1751 Pinnacle Drive
Suite 500
McLean, Virginia 22102-3833
(703) 903-9000

Patrick Miller
Reg. No. 57,502

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